

SERMONS IN QUAIN TEXTS

BY THE EDITOR

Text: Abraham passed thro the land.—Gen. 12:6.

That is about the best any of us are able to do. Abram never did any more than that, even the land which had been promised him he never got possession of, and he had to buy the few feet required for a burying lot. Abram's pilgrimage is a picture of every human life. We have here no abiding city, nor an abiding country or home. We pass thro this land. This world as it is at present is not our home, it is not a fit place for God's regenerated people. Some day there will be a new heaven and a new earth, and the possession of it will be given to God's redeemed people. There are many people who act as tho this world was their permanent possession. Life to them is not a pilgrimage and they do not want it to be. There is one lesson all of us need to learn, and that is as we go thro this world we should leave it a little better. Abram passed thro the land, and it is safe to say that the part of the world he passed thro was a little better, a little sweeter, a little richer spiritually than it was before. Unless we leave the world a little better for having passed thro it we have lived in vain.

Text: Abram . . . departed out of Haran.—Gen. 12:4.

That was not the place where the Lord had told him to go, it was only part way to the promised land. Just why he stopped there we do not know, but we do know that there the old man, Abram's father, died. It is a sad story, told in one pathetic sentence. He did not start on the way to the promised land until old and feeble, and lingering in Haran he died without reaching the land of promise. Let those who are now young take warning. It is dangerous to wait until old age bears us down and the decrepitude of years makes our journey a burden. Start for the promised land now while you are young, full of life and vigor, and give the best days of your life to him, whose you are and whom you ought to serve.

The Mission Field

MISSIONARY READING CIRCLE

COURSE OF READING

| First Year | Cloth | Paper |
|----------------------------------|--------|-------|
| 1. Crisis of Missions—(Pierson.) | \$1 06 | 29 |
| 2. Armenian Amphitheater. | | 09 |
| 3. Do Not Say. | | 09 |
| 4. Our Country. | 51 | 25 |
| 5. Life of Sammy Morris. | | 10 |
| 6. Choice Extracts—(Meyer.) | | 05 |
| | | 87 |

The books, together with other literature, such as circulars giving full particulars how and why to organize and read, description of books, etc., can be had by addressing Rev. C. F. Yoder, Warsaw, Ind. Circles should be organized in every congregation.

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WASHINGTON CITY ECHOES

I wish to say that my ten days' visit with the Fathers' children at Roanoke, Virginia, afforded your unworthy servant no small degree of pleasure. To know them is to love them. It was truly a rich feast to my soul to be with them. I bless God for the privilege and pray His richest blessings upon them all, and may a special measure of His heavenly grace and blessings be with their pastor, our dear brother, D. C. Moomaw, who is so widely and favorably known throughout our great brotherhood, and may the fullness of the blessings of the gospel also rest upon his co-worker, Elder Christian Nininger, who knows what it is to lean upon the Master's bosom at the festal board.

It rained nearly half the time we were there, and other circumstances also seemed to be against us, yet we have reason to believe that good was done. A very liberal and most encouraging subscription list is being received from them for the Washington City church building. If all the churches in the brotherhood will do as well, we can soon have a church home in the national capital. The list will be published soon. We were sorry we could not remain longer but pressing duties called us home. We are still moving quietly along, and feel encouraged even tho we must still labor under great disadvantages on account of having no church building. But we have committed it all to the Lord, trusting in Him also, and His word says, "*He shall bring it to pass.*" Ps. 37:5.

Would that there might be the same interest in all of our spiritual enterprises that is now being manifested with regard to our trouble with Spain. Then there would be no trouble to raise the necessary funds for all church purposes. For several days great throngs of people have been pressing at the doors of the capital as early as seven o'clock in the morning in order to secure a seat in the gallery at noon when Congress convenes. O, that men and women would press as earnestly to hear the message of salvation!

Question: Can we be really interested in anything and not manifest it in some way? Did you ever hear of the man who got his wife a ten cent pin cushion on Xmas in order to demonstrate his devotion and love to her, saying, "It is my invariable practice to expend not less than ten cents yearly on my wife in presents as a token of her worth and my appreciation!" And that reminds me of the woman who liked to sing, "I'm glad salvation is free," and who testified that she had been a church member forty years and it had never cost her but *twenty-five cents*.

Is it not to be feared that many have a religion almost too cheap to be good? What am I willing to give on account of my profession! How much sacrifice am I willing to make? Ah, that word, *sacrifice*! It means something. It does not mean simply to give the Lord the bare leavings, the things we can easily spare, that which costs but little, etc.

Sister Detwiler leaves us today en route for her parents at Ridgely, Maryland. She will spend a few days in Baltimore and perhaps sometime in Philadelphia before she reaches home. She will be greatly missed by our little band. We pray God's richest blessings upon her wherever the Lord may choose to lead her. Her life is characterized by the spirit of true devotion and faithfulness to Him who laid down His life for us.

This is Easter Monday. We would like to speak of some of the customs observed here today but time forbids. One year ago today we observed one of the beautiful resurrection symbols; three precious souls followed Christ in baptism, being the "first fruits" in our new church relation. Since then six more have followed Christ in this blessed ordinance. Only nine additions by baptism in one year, from a natural point of view, compared with some results at other places, would seem rather discouraging, but we press on by faith asking God to use us more effectively in the future. We have done what we could.

I must now close, but not without saying that we were all made very happy on account of the deliverance of Ashland College. Yes, it is but meet that we should set apart a day for special thanksgiving to God for this great blessing. And permit me also to add that the EVANGELIST is growing in favor with all of its readers in this city and we continue to add new names to the subscription list. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

In His name,

W. M. LYON.

315 9th St., S. E.

Missionary Work That Will Tell

Since the organization of the new Missionary Board many communications have reached us calling up new points that should receive the Board's attention, all of which we would like to help. But there is a "first principle," in missionary enterprise, as in salvation. If we seek for the success of the Apostolic age, we will find it in some or all of the following testimonials, of those bold workers themselves:

"And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak," Acts 2:4 "ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost," Acts 1:5. "We are His witnesses of those things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to *those who obey him*," Acts 5:32. "And when they had prayed, they were all filled with the Holy Ghost" Acts 4:31. "Repent, and be baptized every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins, and *ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost*," Acts 2:38. In addition